

## **1999 Hall of Fame Inductee**

### **Jack Wm. Whirry**

Jack Whirry was born and raised in Dalton, Wisconsin. He attended high school in Montello, Wisconsin, and attended UW-Madison where he received his Bachelors degree in Agricultural Education.

From 1940 to 1943, Jack taught agriculture at Gibraltar Union Free High School in Fish Creek and then at the combined departments of Endeavor and Montello for the next four years. Starting in 1947 through 1978, Jack taught at Montello High School. Throughout Jack's teaching career, he was noted for his championship FFA judging teams. He coached 37 winning state judging teams in six different categories. Two of his Poultry judging teams won first place at the National FFA Convention.

Jack received the Honorary State FFA Degree in 1961 and the Honorary American FFA Degree in 1963 and is an Honorary Delta Theta Sigma Agriculture Fraternity member. In 1965, Jack was named the Wisconsin Teacher of the Year and was named the "Wisconsin Agriculture Teacher of the Year" in 1966. Jack was the first Wisconsin teacher selected for the National Honors Endowment in 1978.

Over the years, Jack has been very active in his community. In 1964 he received the Montello Chamber of Commerce Distinguished Citizen Award, and in 1967 the American Legion Community Service Award. Jack was instrumental in establishing the 120 acre Montello School Forest. In 1980 he was named the Wisconsin Tree Farmer of the Year.

Jack is a member of the Montello United Methodist Church and has served as steward, trustee, lay leader, and board president. He also served for 22 years as a member of the board of directors of the Montello State Bank. Jack has been married to his wife Marion for 58 years. They have four children, nine grandchildren and four great grand children.